

Chester Baptist Church

May, June, July 2022



A WORD FROM PASTOR NATE

At the end of our lives we all want to hear God say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matthew 25:23).

We know that servanthood is a requirement in the scriptures. Service is stewardship, acknowledging all that we have is from God. His gifts and blessings on us that we use for His glory. "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2)

What sounds like a list of do's and don't's is really a heart, mind and attitude that sits content in the presence of God and letting His presence play out in our lives. Being a "good and faithful servant" is actually part of God's grace to us. The apostle Paul tells us, "I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power." (Ephesians 3:7)

Our brother and Music Minister Randy McConnell steps into a well-deserved season of retirement. While he "served" as an employee of Chester Baptist for 22 years, he truly served the individuals, young and seasoned alike, with love and admiration, stewarding how God has blessed him. He has been a faithful servant to us all.

What are marks of a faithful servant, one to whom God says, "Well done"?**

Faithful servants suffer willingly for Christ and others.

Faithful servants trust God's sovereignty.

Faithful servants seek to understand God's mysteries.

Faithful servants are made by God.

Faithful servants work through God's power.

Faithful servants are humble.

Faithful servants share God's mysteries with everybody.

Faithful servants are selfless.

While I have only known Randy for these sixteen months, I have seen these traits first hand. I see a brother in Christ who empathizes and puts others' needs before his own. It is visible that he trusts in God's love for him and Lordship in his life. Randy doesn't understand everything about God or why God does what he does, but his hope is unwavering. I see a man who knows he is made in the image of God, and with humility admits fault, weakness, and error. At the same time, Randy claims success through the power of God and will tell that to anyone who asks.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to BE disciples, that MAKE disciples. Randy has BEEN a disciple that has helped MAKE me a better disciple through his example over the last sixteen months. I give glory to God and I can't thank Randy enough.

How is God calling you to develop this selfless mindset in order to be a faithful servant—one who will be honored and rewarded by him?

**source pastor, professor, theologian and author Gregory Brown from 2016

Mr. Mac's Music Note

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I retire from Chester Baptist Church, it is with sadness, but with great peace in my heart. My 22 years with you have been full of Christian joy. I am looking forward to worshipping with you and playing the organ and helping with the music, as needed as a volunteer. Thanks to so many who have been an encouragement to me over the years. Special thanks to Ellen Sapko and the choir, along with other wonderful musicians. It is humbling to have been given the opportunity to serve God along with the choir, instrumentalists, ministers, and laity.



God's blessings,
Randy McConnell



Children's News

We had a wonderful Easter Sunday focusing on Jesus rising and completing God's rescue plan for us. The kids completed an escape room challenge and earned an egg hunt.



Throughout May we have been learning how to "Bouncing Back" as we talk about resilience. We have hope because God had a rescue plan for us through Jesus. Trusting God isn't always easy, but He will help us back up when we fall. Our memory verse reminds us of the strength we have in the Lord.

"But those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak."

Isaiah 40:31, NIV

In June and July we are "Making Waves" with the help of God's Spirit - because what you do today can change the world around you. Our focus will be on the fruits of the Spirit. We will talk about how to show God's love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control in everything we do.

"The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself." Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

"God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns." Philippians 1:6, NIV

Making Waves will also be our VBS theme this year! Mark your calendars for July 24th - 28th and be on the lookout for more information!

Submitted by Mandy Sullivan, Children's Director

PRESCHOOL NEWS!



May is our last month of preschool here at Chester Baptist Preschool. We are looking forward to the fall and returning to preschool on August 29th. If you know of anyone who might be interested in registering their child for our 2022-2023 school year, please have them contact the preschool by either calling (804) 748-3257 and leaving a voice mail message, or emailing the preschool using preschool@chesterbaptist.com for emails requesting information.

This current school year was a rollercoaster with the challenges brought by COVID, but the Lord blessed our preschool in so many ways. The children who have been part of our program have grown by leaps and bounds not only in their physical stature, but also spiritually, academically and socially. It has been amazing to see their transformation. This ministry of Chester Baptist Church has been a blessing to these children and their families. We have all had so much fun together this year.

One of the fun things we have done this year is we had an exotic bird rescue come in March for an in-school field trip. We learned a lot about what the birds eat, where they come from and how long they live. We all got to hold the birds and see them up close. A number of mom's got to join us. They had a wonderful time learning along with our students.

During our nutrition week, the students had the opportunity to try new fruits and vegetables. It was fun to see students who were reluctant to try foods be brave and give new foods a try. Some found out they liked some of the new foods.

At the end of April, we went to the Red Barn Farm animal rescue. The children got to meet a number of wonderful animals that live at the farm. Feeding and petting the animals provided the opportunity for the children to get up close to the animals. It was hard to pick our favorite baby animal, but the miniature pony was the cutest.

We are looking forward to our four-year-old graduation at the end of May as we close out our school year. Graduation is bitter sweet as we celebrate the growth of these children, but also say goodbye as they go off to kindergarten.

Thanks so much to everyone who has played a part in making this preschool year a successful one. We have appreciated everyone's support whether it be fixing or sprucing, donating or praying. Our year couldn't have happened without the love and support of Chester Baptist Church. Thank you for helping us continue our over 30 years of service to children and their families here in the Chester community. We can't wait to see what the next 30 years brings.

In Christ Service,
Shelly McCabe
Director

CBC Youth Summer June

**ESCAPE
ROOM**

JUNE 5
12-3PM

BOWLING

JUNE 7
11-1PM

**PUTT
PUTT**

JUNE 21
11-1PM

**BIBLE
STUDY**

SUNDAYS
WEDNESDAYS

CBC Youth Summer July

**TRAMPOLINE
PARK**

JULY 5
11-3PM

**VOLUNTEER
VBS**

JULY 24-28

CBC Youth Summer August

**MOVIE
DAY**

AUGUST 2

**NIGHT
GAMES**

AUGUST 12
7-9PM

**END OF
SUMMER
PARTY**

AUGUST TBD

**BIBLE
STUDY**

SUNDAYS
WEDNESDAYS

RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR RANDY MCCONNELL

Please join us for a Retirement Reception for Randy McConnell on Sunday, May 22. We will meet in the Great Hall immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service. Help us wish Randy well on his retirement and thank him for his 22 years of music ministry here at Chester Baptist Church. We are so grateful for his service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR REV. ED STANSFIELD

A memorial service for Rev. Ed Stansfield will be held at Derbyshire Baptist Church on Saturday, May 21, at 2:00 p.m.

LIBRARY NEWS

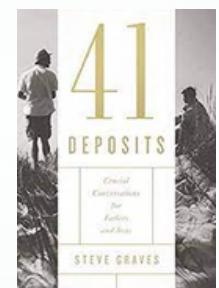
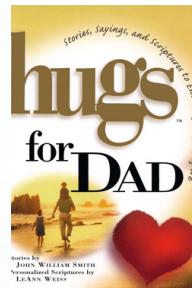
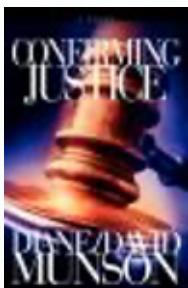
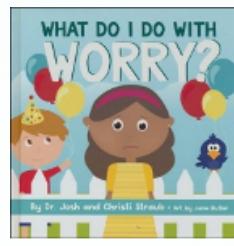
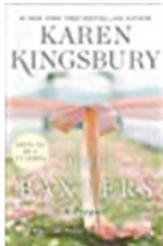
Changes are in the air! "God is the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) What changes are you preparing for? We have resources that will help you deal with the changes in your life, and come closer to our God.

Check out the categories below for resources on growing with our church, building up your family, and celebrating God's love for us.

We are open on Sunday mornings and Wednesday mornings. If you would like to browse the library at another time, give us a call and we will meet you. If you would like to check something out, please let us know and we can have it ready for you.

Email libraryatcbc@gmail.com or call either Jewel at (804) 526-4332 or the church office (804) 748-2939. The CBC Library Staff wishes everyone a Happy Reading Year!

Sundays 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



RUSTY'S RAP SESSION

Needful Things



Get up in the morning, walk on the treadmill--get the exercise done. Eat breakfast, brush your teeth. Take a shower. Commute to work. Take care of volatile situations via conference call while driving. Wait a minute, is that the spouse bleeping in on the call? Now what? An email from mom. Wait another minute, is that a notification about a birthday party? Blast it, a dreaded extended car warranty call.

It seems that the technology that was supposed to make our lives easier is filling our lives with notifications, bleeps, blips, unwanted opportunities, solicitations, and yes even temptations. We work, we play, we read, we run, we exercise, we binge watch streamed television, we play hours and hours of video games (or some people do). We hope, we dream, we wish, but do we spend the time essential for the "needful things"?

Men work a job, and spend excessive amounts of time developing the all important career. They play golf, manicure the lawn, wash the car or truck, hunt, fish, watch football, baseball, basketball, soccer, and hockey, etc. What project can I do next? The garage needs organizing.

Ladies read romance novels. They shop, play Bunko, bridge or some other game. They have jewelry parties, leggings parties, lingerie parties, or just girl get together parties. Are there Tupperware parties anymore? Oh, well. They also play tennis, pickleball, or softball. They cook, clean, decorate, keep a tidy house and keep the husband and children fed. You know, the living room could stand a new coat of paint.

None of the above listed things in and of themselves is evil. In fact many are very important. But the question is what things are needful? What is necessary? What is important? What will bring the biggest blessing?

I recall the story of Jesus' interaction with sisters Mary and Martha in Luke chapter 10. Martha invited Jesus into her house. No doubt she wanted everything to be perfect for her guest. Luke records that she was "distracted with much serving" (verse 40). It appears that a small entourage had entered Martha's house because verse 38 states, "they went...into a certain village...Martha received Him into her house." It's not certain if the entire group or just Jesus entered the house, but what is clear is that "a sister called Mary...sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His word. But Martha was distracted..." (verses 39-40), and she complained to Jesus to "tell" Mary to help her. Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things; but one thing is needful: and Mary has made the right choice.....(verses 41-42).

The question is....Are we like Mary? Are we making the right choice to hear the words of Jesus? Or are we like Martha? Are we so worried about the details that we forget what is important? John Courson's Commentary makes some sobering observations. And I quote, "...if you know your guests are coming to your house, do you find yourself busy, busy, busy—only to be exhausted when they arrive? People don't care whether your windows are spotless or your floors are waxed. What they care about is substance, peace, love....What we do with Christ is infinitely more important than what we do for Him"...in the passage, Jesus shows us that what we do with Him as a Friend is far more important than anything we could ever do for Him in service.

As we partake in vacations, graduation ceremonies, weddings, Memorial Day and Fourth of July celebrations, and the many things that happen in Summer, may we remember that these are all good things, but there is only really one needful thing. We all need to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to Him. Let us make time to do that.



Chester Baptist Church,

How does one expresss thanks to the family of God? In Philippians 1:3 Paul's writing expresses it all, "I thank my God every time I remember you."

Our words fall short in expressing our deep gratitude to the members of Chester Baptist Church for their love and support in the loss of our beloved Rev. Ed Stansfield. The family would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards and prayers.

The Stansfield Family



Chester Baptist Church Family,

Thank you for the many cards, calls and visits while I was recovering from cornea replacement. Your support means a lot.

Verta Blake



Chester Baptist Church,

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, food and phone calls during and following my partial colectomy surgery. Your expression of love were greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,
Gerri Moore



Chester Baptist Church,

Thank you to those who reached out to me during the death of my father. Also, thank you to the FOCUS Department for the donation made in his memory to the Benevolence fund.

Sherry and George Self

DONATE THROUGH THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM (KCRP)

CBC is enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program (KCRP). Here's an easy way to participate:

- Go to <http://Kroger.com>
- Click on the link for KCRP at the bottom of the page under Community.
- Once logged into your Kroger account, you can search for Chester Baptist or HP586 and click Enroll. (New users will need to create an account which requires some basic info, a valid email address & a rewards card.)

A percentage of your purchases will go to CBC at no cost to you.

Please consider helping CBC earn a little additional funding!

Happy Shopping!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ashley Greene
- 2 Dorothy Driskill, Buddy Sullivan
- 3 John Lewis
- 4 Greg Gwaltney, Teresa McConnell
- 5 Judy Morris, Jennifer Wyatt
- 6 Hazel Taylor, Anthony Tillar
- 7 Ruth Felter
- 9 Debbie Cribb, Elijah Greene, Sheryl Magee
- 10 Matt Williams
- 11 Sandra Pentecost, Linda Pruitt
- 12 Melissa Brockwell, Darlene Williams
- 13 Kimberly Sasser
- 15 Chris Farmer
- 16 Mark Gardner
- 17 Darryl Eckert
- 19 Jim Clements
- 20 Sadie Orr
- 21 Hannah Alexander, Tish Varnier
- 22 Kara Felter, Bobby Sasser, Robert Wray
- 26 Annye Gravitt, Anniston Price
- 27 Steven Meager
- 30 Bobbie Tucker

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Garnett Osborne
- 2 Hema Dayalsingh, Jim Lee, Ronnie Miller
- 3 Joe Hale, Leslie Johnson, Sallie Webb
- 9 Meredith Blake, Alice Boquist, Daniel Charters
- 10 Alison Gwinn, Willie Puryear, Tommy Rinker
- 11 Houston Blake
- 12 Jaime Roberson
- 14 Lisa Beck
- 15 Kevin Hood
- 17 Angela Farrier, Ashley Williams
- 19 Sean Rinker
- 20 Fred Dill
- 21 Bobby Massie
- 22 Lauren Mills, Kristen Price
- 23 Carrie Brockwell
- 24 Henry Jarratt, Penelope Weir
- 25 Timothy Dunn, Amy Sink
- 26 Wayne Davis, Robin Moore, Lauren Zuskin
- 27 Noah Harrison, Jacqueline Landis
- 29 Erik Greene
- 30 Jacob Charters, Patrick Litton

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Terri West
- 2 Landa Cook, Diana Lee, Colin Sapko, Stephen Wildeus
- 3 Diane Elliott
- 4 Ray Beale, Nancy Berger
- 9 Allison Jeter, Louise Jones
- 12 Tarren Zehm
- 13 Joann Hymes, Debbi Miller
- 14 Matthew Charters, Jason Moore
- 15 John Jones
- 16 Adam Riveland
- 17 Donald Engleman
- 18 Sandy Baldwin, Kate Cepeda, Alex Weir
- 20 Christine Jaciuk, Darla Mills, Dan Truett
- 21 Dot Stansfield
- 22 Ray Tucker
- 23 Jaxson Austin, Ellen Bailes
- 25 Steve Martin
- 26 Lloyd Braswell, Kathy Carpenter, Austin Jeter
- 27 Melissa Setterholm
- 28 Taylor Rinker, Kyle Wildeus
- 30 Brandon Sasser
- 31 Sandy Ahern, Ken Hymes, Kathy Smith



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00 AM
&
10:30 AM

MEET IN PERSON OR
JOIN US LIVE STREAMED ON
OUR WEBSITE
(WWW.CHESTERBAPTIST.COM),
FACEBOOK, OR YOUTUBE



CONTACT US!

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
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Pastor Bryce Williams, bryce.williams@chesterbaptist.com

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Pianist
Ellen Sapko, contact church office, 748-2939